Rehabilitation of Earthquake Victims in Maharashtra

463. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment regarding rehabilitation of the quake affected victims in Latur and Osmanabad district of Maharashtra;

(b) whether Government are aware of the widening differences between the Government of Maharashtra and the Indian Red Cross society as a result of which the reconstruction work in a large number of villages is at a standstill; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to intervns in the matter to resolve the issues involved in the larger interest of the sufferers of the earthquake?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are no differences between Government of Maharashtra and the Indian Red Cross Society over the rehabilitation programmes in the earthquake affected areas.

(c) Does not arise.

Cotton Production in Gujarat

464. SHRI RAJUBHAI PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of cotton during 1993-94 and the area under cotton cultivation upto the end of October, 1994 in the State of Gujarat.

(b) whether the production of cotton and the area under Cotton cultivation in the State during 1993-94 is less as compared to the last year;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the main reasons therefor; and

(d) the extent to which the cotton crop area is likely to be improved during 1994-95 and estimated production likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The total production of cotton in Gujarat during 1993-94 was 1622.8 thousand bales of 170 Kgs. each. The area under cotton cultivation in Gujarat State during 1994-95 is presently estimated to be about 1201 thousand hectares.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The date on production and the area under cotton cultivation in Gujarat during 1992-93 and 1993-94 are as follows:

Area in thousand hectares)
(Production in thousand bales of 170 Kgs. each)

Year	Area	Production
1992-93	1151.1	1988.5
1993-94	1126.0	1622.8

The decrease in area and productton of cotton during 1993-94 as compared to 1992-93 in Gujarat State was mainly attributed to deficient rains in some parts of the State.

(d) During the year 1994-95, the area under cotton in the State is expected to be increased to about 1201 thousand hectares whereas production is expected to be about 1623 thousand bales of 170 kgs. each.